APR 11 6 2003

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Allen et al.

Serial No.: 10/604,987

Group Art Unit: 2822

Filed: 08/29/03

Examiner: Siek, Vuthe

For: THE USE OF A LAYOUT-OPTIMIZATION TOOL TO INCREASE THE

YIELD AND RELIABLITY OF VLSI DESIGNS

Commissioner of Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

REQUEST FOR REFUND

Sir:

During the afternoon of August 28, 2003 the USPTO's EFS system did not properly process acknowledgment receipts due to a series of software changes. The unique software errors of that afternoon generated acknowledgement receipts that indicated to Applicants that their parent application submissions were received with zero bytes, or otherwise indicated that the electronic submission failed. When Applicant received this notice, and attempted to resubmit the same application, multiple authorizations for filing fees were charged to Applicant's Deposit Account No. 09-0456 for the filing fee of \$1,000.00. Applicants have had Serial No. 10/604,987 expressly abandoned due to the duplicate filing of the same application being prosecuted in Serial No. 10/604,962.

Please refund the fee of \$1,000.00 for the filing of Serial No. 10/604,987 (that was only charged because of the error with the EFS system) to Attorney's Deposit Account Number 09-0456.

Respectfully submitted.

Dated: 4-6-05

Frederick W. Gibb, III Reg. No. 37,629

McGinn & Gibb, PLLC 2568-A Riva Road Suite 304

Annapolis, MD 21401 Customer Number: 29154 Certificate of Transmission by Facsimile

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office (Fax No. 703-872-9306) and on

Frederick W. Gibb, III

PAGE 3/3 * RCVD AT 4/6/2005 10:38:43 AM [Eastern Daylight Time] * SVR:USPTO-EFXRF-1/1 * DNIS:8729306 * CSID:4105731124

* DURATION (mm-ss):01-06